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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Pakistan

SUBJECT Crisis in the Moslem League

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1. In protest against the policy of Prime Minister Mohammed Ali, the following leading political figures have resigned from the Pakistan Moslem League:

Ch. Salaahdin, General Secretary of the League
Yusuf Haroon, Vice President
H. S. Suhrawardy
Nabob of Mamdot, formerly Prime Minister of the Punjab
Fazlul Haq, formerly President of the Moslem League of Bengal
G. M. Syed, leader of the Sind Popular Front
Pir of Manki Sharif, formerly provincial border chief
Mian Iftikharuddin, leader of the Azad Pakistan Party
Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan, independent member of the Pakistan Parliament

2. These withdrawals split the party which has hitherto controlled Pakistan and leaves Mohammed Ali in a dangerous state of isolation. The men who have withdrawn from the Moslem League have long had more or less suppressed tendencies toward opposition. They favor, in their beliefs, social reforms of various sorts, but they are all supposed to be without any taint of Communism.
3. That, at least, is the source's opinion. A second source, however, suggests that his colleague is not sufficiently suspicious of these individuals. Pir of Manki Sharif and Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan both took part in the Asia-Pacific Peace Conference in Peiping, in Oct 1952. G. M. Syed is also president of the Pakistan-USSR Cultural Union. He has also been suggested as the real initiator of an ostensibly Soviet plan for the neutralization of Kashmir.

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4. The fact is, as this second source points out, nobody knows the real reason for this split. It is probable, however, that the break came because of two important decisions in foreign policy, which did not agree with the views of the men on the list above. One of these decisions was that providing for plans for formation of a Middle Eastern bloc meant to form an anti-Soviet barrier. The other was the proposal to transform Pakistan into an "Islamic Republic," which, in spite of the opposition, is to remain part of the British Commonwealth.

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